

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

### **35 USC 102: Oeck**

The Office rejected claims 18 and 22 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Oeck (US 4412889). The Applicant has amended claim 18 to include allowable claim 21 and any intervening claims. Specifically, claim 18 was amended to recite “wherein the thermal oxidizer further comprises first and second sub-chambers divided by a baffle that controls the flow of gases between the first and second sub-chambers, and wherein a pressure senor is operably associated with the baffle that senses a pressure differential between the first and second sub-chambers.” Oeck fails to teach the baffle and pressure senor limitations of amended claim 18, and as such cannot be deemed to anticipate independent claim 18. The rejection of claim 18 should be withdrawn. Claim 22 is allowable by virtue of its dependency on allowable claim 18.

### **35 USC 103: Oeck in view of Kawakami, Bayer, Noland, Yung, Loken or Martin**

The Office rejected dependent claims 19-20, 23-29 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oeck in view at least one of Kawakami, Bayer, Noland, Yung, Loken, and Martin. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. No combination of Oeck and any one of Kawakami, Bayer, Noland, Yung, Loken, and Martin teach, suggest, or motivate the baffle and pressure senor limitations of amended claim 18, and as such fail to render independent claim 18 obvious. Moreover, claims 19-20 and 23-29 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 18.

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**Request For Allowance**

The limitations of claims 20-21 have been incorporated into independent claim 18, as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 18-19 and 22-29 are still pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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